



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Shawn P. McAllister, et al.

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING CONNECTION
TYPE PARTITIONING IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

App. No.: 09/293,297 Filed: 04-16-1999

Examiner: Duong, Duc T. Group Art Unit: 2663

Atty. Dkt. No. 1400.9801200

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action of December 27, 2004, Applicant submits the following response:

IN THE CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 2 further comprises:~~ A method for communicating link connection type characteristics in a network, comprising:determining connection type characteristics for a link within the network, wherein the connection type characteristics comprise partitioning of available bandwidth of the link between switched virtual connections and soft permanent virtual connections;advertising the connection type characteristics to at least one node in the network;

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